



#9/10
3/13/03
Amended

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL
EXPEDITED HANDLING REQUESTED
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Ralf **BERTRAM**, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/995,328

Group Art Unit: 1621

Filed: November 27, 2001

Examiner: P. Zucker

For: **PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PHENYLENE-BIS-BENZIMIDAZOLE-TETRASULFONIC ACID DISODIUM SALT**

Attorney Docket No.: 3968.026

AMENDMENT B

Attn: **Box AF**
Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of December 2, 2002, please
amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS: (Clean Version)

3. A process for the preparation of phenylene-bis-benzimidazole-tetrasulfonic acid di-sodium salt substantially free of discoloration causing by-products comprising:

(a) reacting o-phenylene-diamine with terephthalic acid and chlorosulfonic acid in the presence of strong acids, wherein the reaction time is 10 to 15 hours,